

# The Northfield Press

PUBLISHED in the INTEREST of the PEOPLE of NORTHFIELD and VICINITY

No. 4812

NORTHFIELD, MASS., FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1949

SINGLE COPY 3 CENTS

## NORTHFIELD 10 YEARS AGO From The Files of The Press

Fire destroys house formerly known as Richardson house at South Vernon, Mass.

It is reported that the detour for traffic on the highway to Winchester while the Wanamaker road is being constructed will be via Moody street and Winchester road.

A large tree on the Warwick road, adjoining the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Haskell, long considered as very unsafe has been taken down by the town.

Our local genial rural delivery carrier, Henry A. Johnson, who carries the mail over Route 2 from the Northfield Post Office, believes that a real celebration is in the making for the observance of the 300th anniversary of the first post office in this country.

Pioneer Valley Fund drive starts "In Northfield the summer business, created and started twenty years ago, is today its most valuable asset and second only to the enterprises of the Northfield Schools."

### First Summer Visitor

Rev. Gordon Poole pastor of the First Baptist church of Glens Falls, N. Y., and a summer resident here with a cottage on Cliff road in Rustic Ridge was a visitor here for two days last week, when he arrived to look after his cottage and remove the shutters. He also burned up a large pile of brush left on his acreage after its cutting. He found the snows rather deep and was obliged to leave his car at the foot of the hill and climb over the snow drifts to get to his house. His family are planning to get up to their summer home for occupancy this season just as soon as the summer vacation opens. Mr. Poole is a director of the Rustic Ridge Association and was pleased to learn that no severe damage was done to properties by the winter storms.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 26, Radio program "One Great Hour" 10-11 p. m. All stations. VFW broadcast WHAI, 4:45 p. m.
- March 29, Legion meeting, 8 p. m. Service rooms, Town Hall.
- March 30, VFW meeting, Post Quarters at 8 p. m.
- March 31, CPC meeting, Town Hall 8 p. m. Food Sale, Unitarian Church 3 p. m.
- April 1, Fortnightly meeting, Alexander Hall, 3 p. m.
- April 2, VFW broadcast 4:45 p. m. WHAI.
- April 4, Garden Club meeting.
- April 5, Teachers' Club play, Town Hall "Take It Easy", 8 p. m.
- April 11, P-T-A Meeting.
- April 16, Institution of VFW Auxiliary at Town Hall, Installation of Auxiliary and VFW post officers.
- April 18, Bill Cunningham speaks at the Town Hall, 8 p. m.
- April 19, Franklin County Brotherhoods meet, Congregational Church in Northfield.

### ON THE AIR



The Northfield Post 9874, V. F. W., will be on the air at the regular time this Saturday, 4:45 over station WHAI, with another in the series of Speak Up For Democracy broadcasts.

UNTO MANTUNEN,  
Speaker

### Take it Easy at The Town Hall, April 5

Members of the Northfield Teachers Club, assisted by friends, are rehearsing for a play, "Easy Does It", to be presented at the town hall, Tuesday evening, April 5. The play is being coached by Donald B. Finch who will also play the leading role. Making their first appearances on the Northfield dramatic stage are H. Keith Jacobus, as a college student, and Miss Eleanor Merriam, who goes in for cotton in her ears and in her mouth. Making a second appearance under the coaching of Mr. Finch are Hubert Eastman, a pilot-packing butler, and Miss Beryl Stinson taking the part of a pert miss who ought to be spanked.

Mrs. George Leonard as potentially nagging wife is made practically speechless by her professor husband, played by Donald Finch, who is never at a loss for words. The sharp tongued old lady is played by Miss Evelyn Lawley, and George Leonard plays a prosperous banker on vacation from his usual occupation of foreclosing mortgages on poor widows and orphans.

### Keene Trains Cut

The Boston and Maine Railroad has announced that effective April 3, Sunday Trains, 7350 and 7351 between Keene, N. H., and East Northfield, will be cancelled because of lack of patronage and high operating costs.

The trains cancelled operated on Sunday, No. 7350 left Keene at 8:40 a. m. and arrived in East Northfield at 9:34 a. m.; and No. 7351 left East Northfield at 9:45 a. m. and arrived in Keene at 10:40 a. m. Train 7353 leaving East Northfield at 5:37 p. m. and arriving in Keene at 6:30 p. m.; and 7302 leaving Keene at 3:45 p. m. and arriving in East Northfield at 4:44 p. m. will continue to operate on Sunday as usual.

### Town Topics

The maple syrup makers have been having a field day, and according to all reports the yield this year has been by far better than last year.

### School Committee Approves Class Trip

The Northfield School Committee met at the Center School Thursday, March 17, 1949 with all members present.

The coming trip to Washington by the Senior Class was carefully studied and approved. The committee heartily endorsed the Teachers Institute to be held at Northampton on Wednesday, March 23, 1949. In order to enable the teachers to be present that day there will be no school for the Center School pupils.

Considerable study was made of the playground equipment and preparations have been made to add to it and reorganize the playground.

Date of graduation of the High School has been set for Friday, June 17, 1949.

The committee voted to become members of the Massachusetts Council for Public Schools.

### Church Building Fund Now Totals \$34,500

Gifts and pledges totalling \$34,500 to the building fund of the Northfield Congregational Church were reported by George McEwan, chairman of the five-year campaign being held by the church, at a meeting of the executive committee on Sunday night. Reports were also made by Gaylord W. Douglass, chairman of the special gifts committee, and by Edgar J. Livingston, treasurer. Mr. McEwan also reported that he had been notified of approximately \$12,000 in bequests which will be added to the fund. It was decided to continue the campaign vigorously by special emphasis on bequests and annuities as desirable forms of gifts to the church. Emphasis will also be given the special gifts work which is being headed up by Mr. Douglass and to the special events program which has contributed a substantial amount of the fund and which is under the chairmanship of Mrs. George Carr. Other members of the committee include the Rev. Joseph W. Reeves, Mrs. Wayne B. Wells, E. S. Frary, A. Gordon Moody, and Frank W. Pearson.

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### Auxiliary to Pack Boxes for Camiers

The regular meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. Sarah Finch. Reports were made and accepted. A letter from Camiers, France was translated and read by Mrs. Madeline Chapin. The members of the Auxiliary will meet at the home of Mrs. Chapin, East street, Monday evening, March 28, to pack some boxes and send to this French family of 6 boys and 1 girl.

It was voted to send \$5.00 to the Millers Falls church rebuilding fund. Coupons are always appreciated from Baker's Extracts, Octagon and Kirkman's soap products, Rumford and Hearth Club baking powder, Borden's milk products, La Rosa macaroni, Mrs. Filbert's margarine and Jersey Cereals.

### CPC Holds Regular Meeting on March 31

The Central Planning Committee of Northfield will meet at the town hall, 8 p. m., Thursday, March 31, with the Chairman, Dr. J. W. Bennett presiding.

Foremost on the agenda for this meeting will be the consideration of the several requests by a number of organizations that the CPC conduct a forum for the public study of the question of consolidation of several local high schools.

A number of invitations were mailed out to various organizations not as yet affiliated with the CPC, and it is anticipated that a completed attendance will be present for this meeting.

### Town Topics

Spring vacation at Mount Hermon School will end March 29 and classes will be resumed on March 30. The students of Northfield School for Girls will return on March 30.

Northfield described in Pearson's Magazine about 1875: "Moody now lives in the little mountain town of Northfield, Mass., where he was born. Mark Twain would describe it, I expect, as a one horse town. During the last 20 years it has made no progress. The wooden houses painted with white wash and stand some distance from the road and are a stone's throw from each other surrounded by a tiny patch of garden. On each side of the road are avenues of trees so high that it tires the necks to discover their tops."

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A fellow east of town said to me, "My kids are always scraping about who's going to drive the Farmall Cub. How I wish we'd had machines like that when I was a kid. My poor feet sure took a beating!"

Yes, folks, that's what a lot of people are saying since they bought their Farmall Cub... and they know that any time parts or service are needed, I'm always here.

**GEORGE H. SHELDON**

Biram Rd. Tel. 445 Northfield

### Cunningham, Top News Reporter Here April 18

Bill Cunningham, Boston Herald Columnist, will come to Northfield under the sponsorship of the Northfield Post 9874, April 18, Monday night, 8 p. m., at the town hall.

Cunningham, known to millions of newspaper readers and radio listeners in this country, comes to Northfield for this engagement with an unparalleled background in news reporting.

The highlights of his career are too numerous to catalogue, but here are some: Bill Cunningham has covered every major sports event, including such international classics as the Olympic Games, since Dempsey fought Carpentier. Although big-time sports was his base for years, he frequently moved into fields even then. He interviewed Mussolini in Rome, Hess and Goering, and other top Nazis in Berlin. The Prince of Wales in St. James Palace, Al Capone, in Chicago and Florida, the movie stars in Hollywood. Members of the Parliament in London, and so on through the great, the good, the bad, the famous and infamous — the big stories everywhere.

Cunningham's career is now considered one of the most colorful and solidly-based in the history of American journalism. He has covered the world, and almost all in it, for the past quarter of a century. He has seen the historical events and has known the historical people. Rated in his profession as a truly great reporter, he is tireless, fearless, hard-driving and hard-hitting. Considered by his colleagues a master stylist, he has won many awards with his colorful writing. He is known as a champion of the underdog, and he will fight to the finish for what he believes to be right.

Tickets are available from Post members and at the Northfield Pharmacy.

### Town Topics

Arthur Kairott, Glastonbury, Conn., High School English teacher, and a brother of Mrs. Harold Briesmaster of this town, is one of 17 still in the running for three prizes in the nation-wide "Quiz Kids", "Best Teachers' Contest."

### FOR RENT

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### Holton's Great Many Friends at Open House

Well over a hundred friends and relatives and neighbors visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Holton, Highland Avenue, during the open house held last Tuesday evening in celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Many telegrams, cards, flowers and gifts were received by the Holtons included among the gifts was a purse of money from friends and a gold plate from the Holton Family association.

The Holton home where the open house was held is only next door to the present Marshall home where the wedding ceremony took place on March 22, 1899, with Dr. Schofield of the Trinitarian Congregational Church officiating.

Chandler H. Holton, the son, teacher of mathematics at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, Ga., was home to participate in the celebration.

Fred Holton, who was for 19 years a Selectman of Northfield and chairman of that group for a long period, has been associated with Northfield Schools for many years, more recently as head of the carpenters. He is also a member of the Brotherhood and was a member of the Republican Town Committee.

Serving refreshments were: Mrs. William M. Marshall, Mrs. Emily Kirk, Miss Alice Drake, Mrs. Edgar J. Livingston, Mrs. Fred Palam, Miss Marion Holton, Mrs. Gaylord W. Douglas and Miss Amy Hamilton.

### Card of Thanks

We wish to thank our relatives, friends, neighbors, improved Order of Red Men, Northfield Fish and Game Association for the kindness and sympathy shown us in our recent bereavement, in the loss of our son and brother.

Mr. and Mrs. William C. Walker and children.

### Seniors Leave April 9 On Washington Trip

The itinerary for the Senior Class Washington trip has been announced by Principal George Leonard.

The combined group of students from Bernardston and Northfield along with chaperones, will board the crack Montreal to Washington "Washingtonian" at the East Northfield station at 3:30 a. m., April 9.

From then on, until the group returns to East Northfield on April 14 at 10:22 p. m. it will be a trip packed with sightseeing, shows, trips and a whirlwind tour of Washington and New York.

Included in the trip are: attending a matinee performance of the musical, "High Button Shoes"; the "Easter Parade" and the "Rockettes" at Radio City Music Hall; a bus ride from New York to Washington, through New Jersey and Maryland; television shows in New York; complete tours of Washington; a trip to the Naval Academy in Annapolis; a trip to Independence Hall in Philadelphia; the ice show "Howdy, Mr. Ice" in New York; the Fred Waring show and "Honkeyton in New York", radio shows; and finally a visit to the Central Park Zoo. Then home. Wow!

Chaperones will be Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard.

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# The Northfield Press

NORTHFIELD, MASS.  
FOUNDED IN 1907  
Telephone 429

Editor and Publisher  
Unto Hantunen  
Assistant Editor  
Aina N. Hantunen

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TRINITARIAN  
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
Rev. Joseph W. Reeves, Minister.  
Sunday, March 27,  
9:00 a. m., Junior choir rehearsal.  
9:55 a. m., Church School.  
10:00 a. m., Pastor's Class in church membership for those of the teen-age meeting in the Pilgrim Fellowship room.

10:00 a. m., Young People's Forum and Men's Bible Class.  
11:00 a. m., Public Worship. 4th in a series of Sermons on Lenten questions: "Is Christianity for Weaklings?" Pre-school age children attended by Mrs. Ray Thompson.  
6:30 p. m., Pilgrim Fellowship of Young People. David Wells will lead the devotional service. The Reverend Benjamin Andrews, Jr., chaplain of the Northfield School for Girls, will speak on vital Christian Beliefs. Thirty-five attended last Sunday's meeting.

7:30 p. m., March meeting of the Standing Committee in the vestry. Be sure to listen to the "One Great Hour" broadcast on Saturday evening, March 26, at ten o'clock, eastern standard time. It will be carried on every station. Officers and teachers of the Church School will meet at the parsonage on Monday evening at 7:30.

Mid-week Lenten service on Thursday at 7:30. Mr. Reeves will speak on "The Parables of Jesus." Read Mark 4, Matthew 13, and Luke 14.

ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
South Vernon, Vt.  
Rev. Elvin W. Blackstone  
Services every Sunday, 10:30 a. m.

Sunday School, 11:45 a. m.  
Loyal Workers, 6:45 p. m.  
Praise Service, 7:30 p. m.

UNITARIAN CHURCH  
Rev. Richard G. Sechrist, Minister.  
Sunday, March 27,  
10:00 a. m., Sunday School.  
11:00 a. m., Service and Sermon.  
5:00 p. m., A. U. Y. meals.

ST. PATRICK'S ROMAN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
Rev. Henry J. McCormick, Pastor.  
Masses: First Sunday of Month, 8:30 a. m. All other Sundays, 10:30 a. m.

FREE METHODIST CHURCH  
Rev. Helen D. Bassett, Pastor.  
Friday - Saturday, March 25 - 26,  
Quarterly meeting this week end with the Rev. Herbert Oliver of Trucksville, Pa., in charge.

Public Preaching services at the home of Mrs. Florence Jones.  
Sunday, March 27,  
10:30 a. m., Service and Sermon.  
11:30 a. m., Sunday School.  
2:00 p. m., Service at Bronson Inn.  
7:30 p. m., Grange Hall, Evangelistic service.

## Town Topics

Miss Louise Roe is stopping off in Netcong, N. J., on her return trip from Florida to Northfield. Major Bill Marshall called home from Japan the other day. The call taking but a half an hour to be put through.



Those who stand like rocks are apt to get covered with moss.

MARCH  
26—Great Caracas earthquake, 1812.  
27—Japan withdraws from League of Nations, 1933.  
28—Aristide Briand born, 1862.  
29—Dominion of Canada established, 1867.  
30—U. S. purchased Alaska, 1867.  
31—Johnstown, Pennsylvania, flood, 1889.

APRIL  
1—First accident insurance policy issued, 1894.

## THE "SQUEEZE" BOX

(Letters should be limited to 400 words or less. All letters must be signed by the writer - the name will not be used if you so desire.)

The Egg and - Ouch!!  
The Northfield PRESS  
Northfield, Mass.  
To the Editor:

I was pleased to see the new column "Breeze" by Harold Briesmaster in your issue of March 18th and to know there is a young man in Northfield with the courage and initiative to make such a beginning. While he writes that what he needs is gentle readers and understanding ones, may I say he may as well forget about gentle readers and if he gets an occasional understanding one he will be fortunate. And, too, let him write with the courage of his convictions and not be too concerned about the pungency of his writing. Let the "Breeze" blow where it will so long as he honestly reports the odors it gathers - fragrant or otherwise.

This is for Harold:  
As an old poultryman, I would ask, what did the hen say when she laid that "blockbuster"? The answer of course is, "Ouch." Sincere wishes for success in your new venture.

Vermont

## "The Lion Roars"

Sunday P. M.

March 19, 1949

My Dear "Lo the Indian",  
This the first week of my self imposed sacrifice has gone into the realm of recollection and memory. There is little to say about my feelings and reactions—I have gone about my daily tasks with just about the same impersonal contacts with fellow man. No one seems to know or care that I am now supposed to be an accepted citizen. But, wait! How do I know I am an accepted citizen? No one has told me so — No one has held out his hand to me and said Welcome to our fair Citizenship — Can it be since I have climbed to dizzy heights of the rest of the people with "only 2 bucks between me and starvation", that there is something lacking in my qualifications.

Dear me, I have labored under the impression all my life that all anyone needed to be accepted in citizenship would just be that proverbial 2 bucks. Can it be that somewhere I have neglected a part of my training—that I have failed to obtain an education which would enable me to compete on the same level as my neighbors, to compete on the same plane with people from the big cities — Heaven forbid such thoughts — I have always felt I was mentally equipped to stand my ground in work or play but now I begin to have misgivings. I am at an age where it is too late to do anything about this insufficiency of schooling for my self but can I not do something for those poor citizens of tomorrow — Can I not point out to all of those poor little boys and girls that they are not being equipped with what it takes to go out into this fair land of ours and compete with youngsters in all walks of life who have had the advantages of big city education — Can I not point out to the poor parents of these future citizens of ours that to fall to provide adequate education to the highest possible standard is to be derelict in their first and most important duty to their posterity. Heaven forbid that in this day and age parents can be so short sighted — can be so cruel — to their flesh and blood — can be so careless about their own personal future security. Every penny they spend on the care and training of their children will be returned to them a hundred-fold in countless ways — most important of which is the feeling of security that comes in the knowledge that one has just 2 bucks between him and starvation.

Let's dig down into those innermost recesses of our souls and come up with that sorely needed Regional High School before we do anything else.  
Fearfully and hopefully yours,  
"Lowest the Lion"

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## THE CHATEAU AND SCHELL MEMORIAL BRIDGE

A PAPER AS PRESENTED TO THE NORTHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON MARCH 1, 1949

by Arthur L. Winn

Materials for the fills had to be brought from a distance and for this job a track was laid and engine and cars purchased for the job. Italians and local teams were employed. It is said that a dump cart drawn by two bay horses went over the bank where the fill was being made just north of the building. The horses sustained broken legs so were killed and were buried where they fell.

The Chateau is supposed to have been modeled after some French Chateau, but which one no one can be sure of. The architect is responsible for the design.

Again quoting Mr. Moody: "The Chateau has thirty-six rooms, twenty-four bath and toilet rooms, large drawing room, dining room, library, main entrance hall capable of seating 200 people, dining room, billiard room, chapel and upstairs lounge; besides numerous store rooms. It has twenty-one fireplaces. Some of the rooms are circular. There is a ramp from the first to the second floor and a double spiral interlaced stairway. The large chandeliers, mirrors, and fireplaces in the drawing room are still the wonder of visitors."

"It took two years to build this chateau and during this time Mr. Schell never came to see the progress of the work, but he kept close in touch with it through conferences with his architect." (end of quote)

It has been reported that when

Mrs. Schell first saw the building and thought of it as her home, she threw up her hands feeling that the burden of running such a place was too much for her.

It is also said on good authority that although the specifications called for the best of material and workmanship, Mr. Schell did not get all that he paid for, so both Mr. and Mrs. Schell were a little disappointed in this new home. They took up their summer residence there in June 1903. Thereafter they spent their summers here each year until 1928. Mr. Schell died shortly after Christmas week of that year. (Mrs. Moody says January 1929.)

During the first twenty years of their residence they entertained many houseguests and local friends but during the last ten years of his life Mr. Schell was the victim of very crippling arthritis and Mrs. Schell devoted her time wholly to him.

When Mr. Schell had decided upon the location of his dream house, he purchased additional land which adjoined the fifty acres he already held until he eventually owned one hundred and twenty-five acres. Several houses were on the property. These he had removed and he surrounded most of the property with what historian Parsons called an ugly high red fence. This was made of boards, close together and pointed at the top.

(To be continued.)

## Do You Know Massachusetts?

Compiled by the Massachusetts State Planning Board

DO YOU KNOW THAT... The U. S. Department of Commerce estimates that Massachusetts had a net in-migration of 150,000 residents between April 1, 1940 and July 1, 1948. This was a greater gain, in proportion to size of population, than occurred in 70% of the other states... The first complete cotton textile mill in America was built in Waltham about 1814 and used waterpower... The first steam power mill, Naumkeag Steam Cotton Mills, was built in Salem in 1848... January records of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics show 51,000 fewer manufacturing employees in Massachusetts than a year ago and a decline of 2,500 construction employees, but an increase of 12,900 employed in non-manufacturing services... The net loss in total employment was 40,600 or 2.4% compared with January last year... The Department of Education reports that during the year 1947-8 the average expenditure per pupil in Massachusetts Elementary public schools was \$149.34 and in the high schools about \$221.00... Elementary school cost ranged from \$83.81 per pupil in Merrimack to \$449.53 in Tolland. Four-year high school ranged from \$132.78 in Medway to \$517.29 in Petersham... The town of Stoughton adopted a comprehensive zoning by-law at its recent annual meeting, which leaves only one unincorporated community in the 43 cities and towns under the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan District Commission.

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## Entertainment and AMUSEMENT GUIDE

### LATCHIS MEMORIAL

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2:15 6:30 8:30

Fri. - Sat. March 25 - 28

"CHICKEN EVERY SUNDAY"

Dan DAILEY - Celeste HOLM

Sun. - Tues. March 27 - 29

"A LETTER TO THREE WIVES"

JEANNE CRAIN

LINDA DARNELL

ANN SOUTHERN

Wed. - Thurs. March 30 - 31

"UNFAITHFULLY YOURS"

REX HARRISON

LINDA DARNELL

### PARAMOUNT

Brattleboro

Sun. - Tues. March 27 - 29

"SONG OF INDIA"

SABU - TURHAN BEY

Wed. - Thurs. March 30 - 31

"LADIES OF THE CHORUS"

and

"TAKE MY LIFE"

Fri. - Sat. April 1 - 2

"SLIGHTLY FRENCH"

Dorothy LAMOUR - Don AMECHE

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GARDEN

Theatre Greenfield

Continuous from 1:30



by Gertrude C. Whitney

Looking forward to summer planting and the serious business of providing fresh vegetables for our own tables in order that more can be released for Europe, I mentioned some of the old standbys last week, such as cabbages, tomatoes, lettuce and parsley which it would be advisable to start early in cold frames. This week I would like to speak of a few of the fancy vegetables, such as cauliflower, kohlrabi, Brussels sprouts, sweet peppers, eggplant and okra.

For an early start, the seedsmen recommend sowing cauliflower, Brussels sprouts and sweet peppers in flats in the house or in cold frames out of doors. They can be thinned and transplanted into the garden by the middle of May. For cauliflower, Breck recommends White Bouquet; Catskill as a dependable variety of Brussels sprouts for the home gardener; for sweet peppers, Waltham Beauty, as exceptionally sweet and mild. The above named are the aristocrats of the garden and need special care.

I have a neighbor here in East Northfield who has had fine success with eggplant. It is a handsome vegetable and truly delicious when cooked right. Being a member of the Solanum family (deadly nightshade) there is a bitter juice which must be pressed out before frying in beaten egg and breadcrumbs. New Hampshire Hybrid is recommended by both Breck and the Extension service.

One of the least known and most curious of our garden vegetables is kohlrabi, described as a leafy turnip growing above ground. I call it the clown of the garden for when planted in rows, these plumed heads strike individual attitudes

and seem to be bowing at one another. With their long, slender necks, they remind me of the old nursery rhyme: "Little Noddy noddy, all head and no body." I fear I am not quoting exactly, for the original conundrum ran like this: "Little Noddy Noddy, long legs and no body". The correct answer was: A pair of tongs.

Years ago, I had fine success with kohlrabi. It was little known at the time and I found a ready market for it as I had much more than I could use for my own table. We quite enjoyed it, peeled, cut in pieces, boiled and served with a cream sauce. It has a more delicate taste than turnip.

I wonder if any of my readers ever tried to raise salsify or oyster plant. In this case, one cooks the root after peeling and cutting it in pieces, prepared as a cream soup. It has a noticeable oyster flavor.

Another vegetable which I tried to raise once is okra. The seed-pods are quite gummy, you know, and the contents are what is used to thicken chicken gumbo soup, gumbo being the Southern name for okra. While visiting in New Orleans, I was astonished to see okra stalks growing to a height of some twelve or fourteen feet, for mine were puny little things in comparison.

Breck especially recommends the Golden Beauty carrot as especially tender and delicately flavored. The Extension Service recommends Chantenay, Nantes, (coreless) Imperator and Danvers Half-long for beets, Crosby's Egyptian and Detroit Dark Red. Breck advises Early Wonder as of uniform size and especially good for bunching. If buying, one likes beets of a size.

### DPU Ruling May Lower local Tel. Rates

Mr. Sydney F. Spencer of the Greenfield district telephone company office said in a recent conversation with the PRESS that the

only effect the recent DPU refusal of a \$10,000,000 rate boost to N. E. Tel. & Tel. would have to Northfield residents would be to double the existing 5 cents toll calls to Bernardston.

If the DPU ruling goes into effect on April 1st, and wipes out the 1947 boost of \$5,000,000 there would be a reduction of 50 cents on all business phones and a 25 cent reduction on all residential phones in Northfield. The DPU has granted, however, a 5% increase in basic rates. Spencer felt that generally there would be a lowering of rates in this area.

There will be no change in calls to South Vernon or South Hinsdale. Spencer further stated that if the DPU decision stands all plans for better service would have to be held in abeyance.

Because of this ruling, and subsequent loss of revenue to the company, Mr. Spencer indicated that it is possible that 1,800 N. E. Tel. and Tel. plant employees will be laid off, however he felt that the Greenfield area would suffer no cut in personnel at this time.

This ruling is being appealed at the Massachusetts Supreme court.

### BREEZE

by HAROLD A. BRIEMASTER

The Bright Side  
An encouraging sign is the new home construction in and around Northfield, and especially outside Greenfield, where whole colonies of new homes are being built. Confident in the future, county residents have built homes with style and grace that draw admiration from each passer-by. Doubters have been shown that attractive homes can be built during these times.

A Darker Aspect  
The papers are carrying the news

that truck drivers will be checked at various points on the highways of the nation to determine if they are members of the union in good standing. If not, I presume the advantages of joining will be pounded into them. The country has come a long way, but not all of it is progress, according to my interpretation of the word.

Clean Thinking  
The magazine article "Florida, a Polluted Paradise" in the current issue of a weekly publication, has not been popular with the officials and the publicity bureau down there. However, Florida will benefit by the facts of pollution condi-

tions brought before the public in a straightforward manner. A state so dependent on its annual winter visitors will find it good business to think more clearly of solving its problems. New England is no exception when it comes to pollution of its rivers and streams. Industrial wastes and raw sewage disposal is a problem of public concern, and progress is being made on plans to correct the situation through the cooperation of industries, towns, and the Federal government. Once again, game fish may abound in the Connecticut River, boating will regain popularity, and swimming in sheltered coves will be a safe mat-

ter. Besides, will not all of the citizens be proud that their river is clean?

More Votes  
State elections every two years keep the political pot boiling in Massachusetts. Interest does not remain high in Northfield, except in the inner sanctums of the Republican and Democratic town committees.

All voters like to be wooed, but the new voter in town is not treated as an important person, as is his counterpart in communities where the two parties are more evenly matched. By courting the new voter and the new resident, either party in Northfield could make a considerable gain in votes this next election. Just a few votes made a big difference last year.

## Easter Cues

Ready For Spring  
**DRESSES**

Picture your spring dress of navy blue with touches of cloud white... perhaps a dark ground print will be your choice. Whichever you choose from Wilson's will be in tune with Spring.

\$16.95



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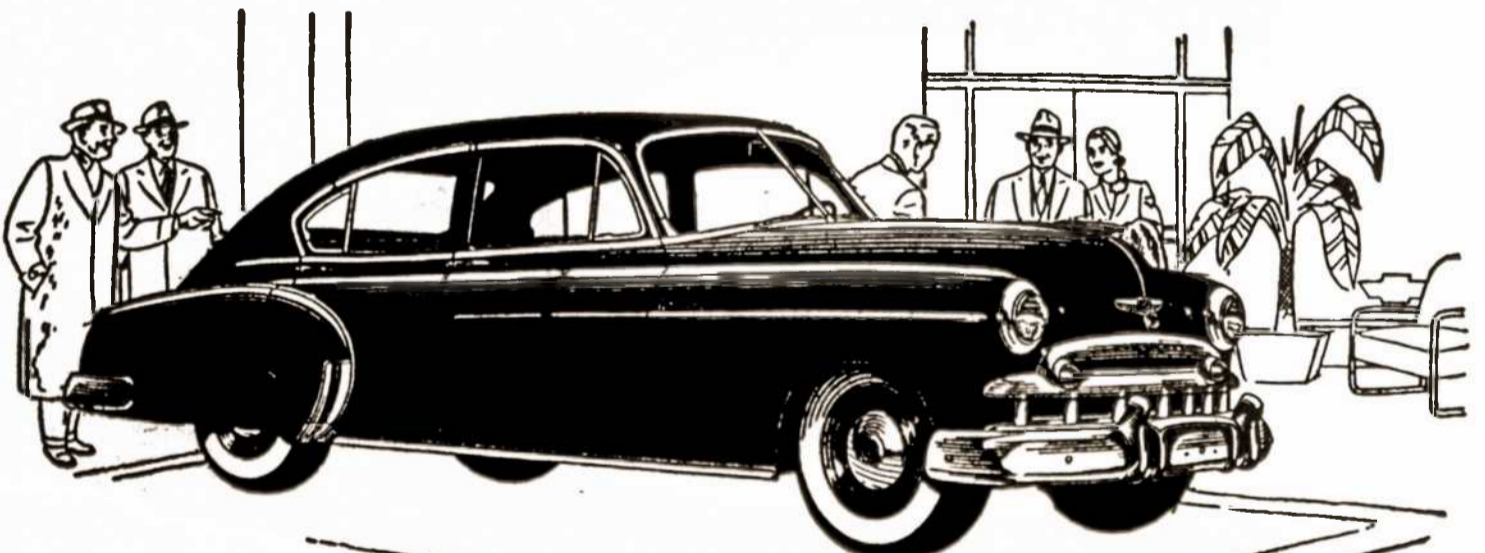


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THE PRESS FOR A YEAR FOR \$1.00  
RENEW NOW!! SUBSCRIBE NOW!! ACT NOW!!**

### Tax Rates Announced

Heath is the first town in the county to announce its tax rate for the coming year which is \$46; Colrain will have a tax rate of \$41 which is \$9 less than last year; Sunderland will have a tax rate of \$33 down \$4; Buckland will have a tax rate of \$35 which is up \$8; Conway tax rate will be \$40, up \$1; Ashfield announces a rate of \$30, down \$3; Shelburne tax rate will be \$44 which is \$4 more than last year.

No information is available as yet as to the Northfield rate which it is expected the local assessors will shortly announce, with the approval of Commissioner Long.

### Town Topics

Rev. L. E. Spaulding of the South Vernon Home will continue to act as the interim pastor of the Millers Falls Congregational Church which

recently lost its church building by fire.

Summer residents reading the Press are advised that although spring has arrived, the roads of Rustic Ridge still remain covered with ice and snow and cannot be used. If warmer weather prevails another week may note a difference. Several summer residents are planning to come up to reopen their cottages for the coming season and make repairs during April.

Frank D. Chutter of Wellesley and his brother, Lieut-Col. Wellington of the U. S. Army recently returned from Frankfurt, Germany were visitors in Northfield last week and greeted many friends.

On March 22, Dr. William E. Park, president of the Northfield Schools was guest speaker at the Tenacre School in Wellesley, Mass. Sunday, March 27, Dr. Park will preach at the Unitarian Church in Germantown, Pa.

Dr. Howard L. Rubendall, head-

master of Mount Hermon School for Boys, is vacationing in Florida.

Miss Lee Smith and Miss Virginia Pierce are on a vacation trip to Oberlin, Ohio.

Miss Ruth Anne Jones stopped off in Conn., to visit friends on her trip to Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Raymond, and daughter Sheila, have gone to Florida for a short vacation.

Mrs. E. E. Symonds has returned from Worcester to her Highland avenue home in East Northfield.

There will be a food sale at the Unitarian Church, 3 p. m. March 31. Spring must be here! What with Spencer Bros. having lined a half dozen Ford tractors on their grounds on Main street.

### Bronson Home Fire Loss Set at \$500

A small fire broke out in one of the upper floor rooms of the Bronson Nursing Home last Saturday with quick action confining the flames to this one room, in the east wing.

Preliminary estimates place the damages around \$500, with no personal injuries reported. Residents were quickly evacuated from the scene of the fire.

The local fire company responded to the alarm.

### Classified Ads

**WE SERVICE Refrigerators.** We have a large stock of parts, including V-Belts available. For prompt service phone 445. George H. Sheldon, Northfield, Mass.

**FREEZER LOCKER,** packaging and wrapping supplies on hand. George H. Sheldon, Birnam Rd., Northfield, Phone 445.

**LET US DO YOUR — Furniture** Repainting, clocks cleaned and repaired, chairs reupholstered. Reasonable rates. Quick Service. Articles called for and delivered. Write to: Kory Korner Antique Shop, P. O. Drawer "A", Millers Falls, Mass.

**DRESSED POULTRY —** and fresh eggs. Fowl, 53c; roasters, 53c. Eggs, Extra Large, 86c; Large 64c; Medium, 61c. Deliveries on Wednesday and Saturday. Tel. 708, Amsden Poultry Farm, South Vernon.

### DICKINSON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

MRS. FLORENCE PHELPS, Librarian  
Mrs. Warren Randall, Assistant Librarian

Open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 1 to 8 except Wednesday and Friday when it closes at 6 p. m.

For the second time this year, the circulation in books and magazines reached the 200 mark, on Tuesday, March 15. It is interesting to note that the children usually average higher on non-fiction than the grown-ups. On Tuesday, the children had a ratio of 67 fiction to 24 non-fiction; while the adults had a 90 to 17 ratio.

In new books we have: Tender melody, by Lealie Lynd; Face of hate, by Du Bois, a Crime Club selection; High holiday, by Kathleen Norris, a story of American family life in San Francisco in the gay nineties; Six Gun Sheriff, by Manning; and Marquand's new book, Point of no Return. This is a story of Charles Gray, born and brought up in Clyde, Mass., which is situated about 30 miles north of

Boston. The story is told in two parts; the first being laid in April, 1947. Some may have read this as a serial in "The Ladies Home Journal."

We recently received a gift of several volumes of books for boys: The pyramid builder by Rolt-Wheeler; Peter, the whaler, by Kingston; Jerry Hicks, ghost hunter, by Heyliger; Wings over the world, a book of short stories about airplanes; American Boy series, short stories; and stories about the Boy Scouts, by Fitzhugh.

We also have a copy of the 1948 Life Insurance Fact Book and The Yearbook of Agriculture, (1948-1947), entitled Science in Farming. The latter a gift from the United States Department of Agriculture. F. H. P.

### THE OVERSEAS



Thank You

Anatolia College  
Thessalonika, Greece  
March 9, 1949

Excerpts from a letter written by Mrs. Ruth Compton:

"...Your wonderful Xmas box, you sent to us by the Wind friends in Northfield and Mt. Hermon, arrived in time for our Xmas party and everything was lovely and saved the situation as we would have had very little to give as presents without it."

"...We had a lovely Christmas party with 150 present. It's become a tradition and is a very happy occasion because it's a change to see the families of our workers under happy circumstances. I am always amazed at the generosity of you people and your concern for the rest of the world. Goodness only knows we all need to be concerned, because the situation is so serious."

"...The United Nations report,

issued this week, claims there are 1,000,000 refugees in Greece, about 1-7 of the population.

"...She is a teacher in the state system and, if she wants to remain a civil servant she must stay in this very dangerously located village, fifty miles away in the mountains, for two months. She has to pay someone to guard her every night. Shades of Northfield."

"...There is almost nothing to eat. There are some sheep which the soldiers drive in front of them when they go out on duty. The poor sheep become mine detectors and when blown up, their carcasses are brought back to town and sold for meat."

"...every evening after school the children gather greens and carry them to the church to place them on the caskets of those who have died during the day."

"...One just wonders where will end. This village is only one of hundreds that have known nothing but fear for two and a half years."

"...Thank you ever and ever so much for the box of gifts and all your effort behind it."

Ruth Compton

BUY U. S. SAVINGS BONDS



### JAMES WALKER

James Howard Walker, three, young son of Mr. and Mrs. William C. Walker of Elm street, passed away last Friday very suddenly.

He was born December 21, 1945. He leaves, besides his parents, five brothers, William, Jr., Sidney, Roland, Richard and Douglas, and a sister, Ethel; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Leon C. Miller of Winchester road, and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral services were held Monday in the Kidder Funeral Home

with the Rev. Joseph W. Reeves officiating.

Burial was in the West Northfield Cemetery.

**ARCHIBALD M. SOLANDT**  
Archibald M. Solandt, for nearly a half century a resident of Northfield, died at his home on Ashuelot road, on March 17, after a long illness. He was born in Inverness, Quebec, Canada, October 30, 1865.

Educated in the public schools in Inverness, he became a carpenter by trade, to which he applied himself with skill, and devotion for many years.

He leaves besides a devoted wife, two daughters, Mrs. William J. Everts, Chittenango, N. Y., and Mrs. Elisabeth D. Moffat of Cambridge, N. Y.; four grandchildren, James M., Joan P., and Judith Ann Everts and Jeffrey C. Hoffitt.

### APRIL 1ST?

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**NEW SPRING HATS**

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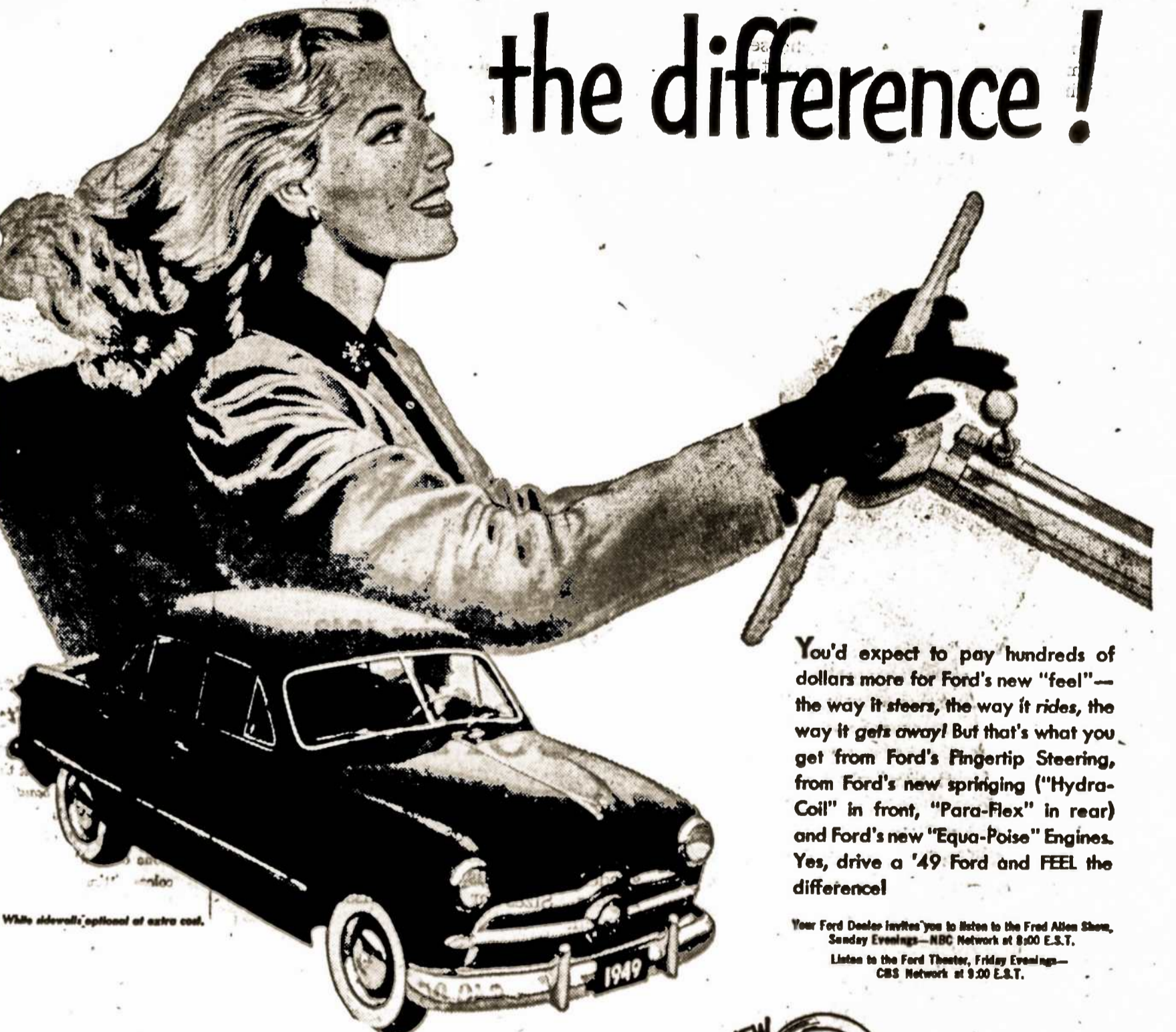
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Your Ford Dealer invites you to listen to the Ford Allen Show, Sunday Evenings—NBC Network at 8:00 E.S.T. Listen to the Ford Theater, Friday Evenings—CBS Network at 9:00 E.S.T.

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